

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES

The Guide-Board, Psalm.

1923
M., Jan. 1. "Blessed." Ps. 32:1-6.
T., Jan. 2. Bad advice. Prov. 10:7-14.
W., Jan. 3. Love of the Word. Ps. 119:41-48.
Th., Jan. 4. The fruitful life. John 15:1-8.
F., Jan. 5. The fate of the wicked. Jude 8-19.
S., Jan. 6. Religion pays. Prov. 3:13-26.
S., Jan. 7. Topic—Lessons from the Psalms. 1. The Guide-board Psalm. Ps. 1:1-6. (Consecration meeting.)

What two ways of life are here described?
Why does conscience need guiding?
What influences around us tend to lead us astray?

Ps. 1:1-16.

The Guide Board Psalm. A guide board is intended to show people which way to go. It is put up at the beginning of a road to tell where the road leads; or it is put where two roads separate, so that the traveler may know which road to take. A sign board is put up at the beginning of each new road. As it points one way, it says, "This is the right road." As it points the other way, it says, "This is the wrong way." This first Psalm points the right way and warns against the wrong way. It shows the various stages of the man who takes the wrong course. He walks in the way (or counsel) of the ungodly. He thinks there can be no harm in just walking with the wicked. Soon he gets tired just walking and he stands and talks with them, and then sits down as one of them. The steps in the sinfulness of his companion may be noticed. First his companions are "ungodly," those who live without God; then they are "sinners," those who show sin in their lives; then they are "scornful," making light of God, and His law and of the difference between right and wrong. He who starts in the way of sin will find that he will go farther and farther in it, and that his associates will get worse and worse.

Blessed is the man who does not walk in this way, but walks in the way God has laid out. He finds his delight in obeying God's law. In order to know His law he studies it and meditates upon it. He who walks in this way shall prosper greatly and shall stand before God.

"Blessed." Ps. 32:1-6. No greater blessing can come to a sinner than the forgiveness of his sins. Forgiveness is bestowed by God upon those who confess their sins and ask for forgiveness. We cannot purchase for-

givenness. It is the gift of God, and all we have to do is to ask for it, recognizing the fact that Jesus Christ has made forgiveness possible by His death on the cross.

Bad Advice. Prov. 10:7-14. The devil is continually giving bad advice. He uses men and women as his agents. Whenever any one suggests to you to do something wrong, you may be sure that the advice comes from the devil. God never suggests the doing of any thing that is wrong. There are some who suggest doing what is wrong, that, as they say, some good may be accomplished. This also is the advice of the devil. White plaster cannot be made by putting lumps of lamp-black into the mixture.

Love of the Word. Ps. 119:4-48. "I will delight myself in Thy commandments, which I have loved." In the 97th verse of this Psalm we read: "O how love I Thy law! It is my meditation all the day." We would not expect to love with an affectionate love one who is a stranger to us. In order to love we must become acquainted. We must learn to know God's law in order to love it, and when we do learn to love it we will find it one of our best friends.

The Fruitful Life. John 15:1-8. Jesus expects us to bear fruit in our lives. But He who goes into the wrong way separates himself from Jesus, and so from the source of life. One road leads into rocky deserts, where no fruit grows. The other leads to the river of life on whose banks the trees bear continually. Which road are you taking?

The Fate of the Wicked. Jude 8-19. The unrepented wicked have nothing to look forward to but to be cast out into outer darkness. No sin can enter into God's Holy presence, and out of His presence is darkness. Man is lost not because of his sins, but because he fails to repent of his sins and ask God for forgiveness. Rejection of the offer of forgiveness through Jesus Christ is the unpardonable sin which casts men and women into hell.

Religion Pays. Prov. 3:13-26. These verses deserve the most careful study. They present religion in a wonderfully beautiful way. Of course religion pays. It is that God has planned for us, and we cannot imagine God, our loving Father planning any thing for us that would not be profitable. It is profitable, because it makes us prosperous and gives us happiness, comfort and peace in this world, and insures us an eternal life in the world to come.

"Religion is the chief concern of mortals here below."

SUGGESTED PROGRAM.

Hymn.
Prayer for God's blessing on the meeting.

Hymn.
Daily topics, the leader taking the one assigned to Sunday.

Hymn.
Assign these questions to five members to be answered briefly by them:
By what means are young men and boys led into the wrong way?

By what means are young women and girls led into the wrong way?
What can our Society do to keep others in the right way?

What plans should we make as a Society for the New Year, so that we can do better work for God?

What are some of the good resolutions we might make that will help us to live better lives this year?

Sentence Prayers.
Hymn.

Prayer of thanksgiving to God for the blessing He has given us during the past year.

Prayer for God's blessing and guid-

ance through the coming year.

Hymn.

Lord's Prayer.

Sentence Prayers.

1. O God, we thank Thee for all the rich blessings Thou hast given us during the past year. Thou hast given us many temporal and many spiritual blessings.

2. Father, as we begin this New Year, we ask Thy blessing upon us in all things as Thou seest best for us.

3. O Saviour dear, we pray that Thou wilt walk with us all the way, keeping us in the right way.

4. O Holy Spirit, we pray that each one of us may have our hearts cleansed from sin, and may we by Thy grace and power be given strength to resist the temptations of the devil.

5. Our Father, we pray that Thou will help us to be more faithful to Thee this year than we have ever been before.

6. Our Saviour, we pray that Thou wilt help us so that we may be Thy instruments in saving the souls of others.

7. Father, we pray that each one of us may live all through the years just as Thou wouldst have us to live. Amen.

MONTGOMERY UNION.

The Fall Conference of the Young People's Union of Montgomery Presbytery met in the First Presbyterian Church, Roanoke, Va. President, Miss Marie Rickey.

After singing and prayer by Dr. W. C. Campbell, Mr. Francis Gresham took charge of the devotional exercises.

Mrs. C. R. Vaughan introduced to the young people the following persons: Dr. W. C. Campbell, Dr. P. C. Clark, Mr. T. P. Johnson, Mr. Norman Johnson, Miss Rickey, Miss Margaret McGuire, Mr. Meade Stull, Mr. Francis Gresham. Then followed an address by Rev. T. P. Johnson on, "Why We Are Here."

Reports of the Massanetta Springs Conference were given, as seen by: An Athlete, Mr. Page Kelley; A Student, Miss Mary Kelley; A Good-Timer, Miss Anne Oakey; A Student Volunteer, Miss Frances Hesser.

Rev. Norman Johnson spoke on, "What Massanetta Means to Young People's Organizations, which was followed by an address by Rev. J. J. Reeves. Miss Margaret McGuire, the Young People's Secretary, gave a most encouraging report of the year's work. After a prayer by Mr. Johnson, the conference adjourned for lunch.

The conference was reopened by singing, "Come Thou Almighty King" and the devotional exercises were conducted by Mr. Meade Stull. A Model Mission Study Class was held by Miss Dorris Huff. During open parliament the reports of the findings

and nominating committees were given. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. Page Kelley; Vice-President, Miss Louise McCormick.

Following the open parliament a pageant, directed by Miss Margaret McGuire, was given. The conference closed with prayer by Mr. Norman Johnson.

"GEORGIA ON TOP."

By C. F. Evans.

Southern Secretary, United Society of Christian Endeavor.

The Northwestern District of the Georgia Christian Endeavor Union did its dead level best to help Georgia reach its state motto, which is, "Georgia on Top," in its convention held in the First Presbyterian Church, Rome, November 25 and 26, as the convention far exceeded in numbers and interest any previous convention of the District. The out-of-town registrations were more than 130 and a large number attended who did not register.

The details of the convention were handled by the District President, S. H. Askew, and nothing was left undone to make the convention a success.

Many societies sent auto loads of delegates as far as eighty miles one way to attend the convention.

One hundred and twenty-seven plates were laid for the fellowship banquet and failed by almost fifty to care for the number present.

Among the speakers in the convention were Dr. Leyburn, pastor of the Convention Church; Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Wood, pastor and wife of the First Christian Church of the convention city; Miss Sadie Harley, missionary in the West Virginia fields; Rev. J. C. McGregor, Cedartown; Miss Rusk, Atlanta; Miss Houseal, Cedartown; Mr. T. A. Moye, president Atlanta City Union; Mr. James Morton, Atlanta; Miss Mamie Gene Cole, Junior Field Secretary All South Extension Committee, Atlanta, and Southern Secretary Evans.

The Atlanta Juniors very splendidly presented Junior Christian Endeavor in plays and demonstrations, which won the hearty approval of the Convention.

One unusual feature of the Convention was that the presidents of the three City Unions of Atlanta were in attendance, with a splendid group from each Union. Harold Jackson is president of the Atlanta Junior Union. George Sharp is president of the Atlanta Intermediate Union, and T. A. Moye is president of the Atlanta Senior Union.

Mr. Askew was re-elected president of the District, with H. B. Sacre, of Atlanta, vice-president.

Father, we pray Thee, that Thou wilt help us to speak a word for Jesus whenever we have the opportunity.

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